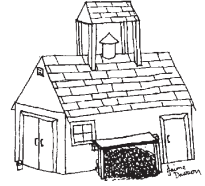


# THE GUILFORD GAZETTE



Volume 22, Number 4

Guilford, Vermont

November 2016

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**“One kind word can warm three winter months.”**

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## **Four Winds: Connecting with Guilford Kids, the Community and Nature**

BY VICTORIA MATTHEW

When my husband I moved to Guilford in 2005, we were transplants from Western Massachusetts. This meant that even though we lived in Guilford, we spent most of our time across the border because that's where our friends and jobs were.

Fast forward seven years: Our daughter Emily started kindergarten at Guilford Central School and we'd met a few people in the community—well, four people from our neighborhood, plus Norm Covey who took care of driveway. Kind of ridiculous, really—that meant we'd met less than one person per year.

For busy working parents, connecting with the community can be challenging, but becoming a Four Winds volunteer at Guilford Central School greased the wheels for me.

Four Winds is a nature program that serves elementary schools around the region, and is powered by parents and community volunteers. Volunteers attend a two-hour training once a month to learn about the activities and topics you will teach. You then work with the classroom teacher to schedule an hour or so to teach the lesson.

During my four years as a Four Winds volunteer, I've learned and taught lessons on everything from snowflakes to animal tracking. And when I say learned, I mean I really learned—I'm no naturalist, so I learn just as much as the kids; this makes hikes in the woods even more fun. My involvement in Four Winds has also helped me form relationships with my daughter's teachers, the kids in her class, and my mother-in-law Wanda who co-teaches with me. It feels good

to walk into school and have the kids excitedly ask about that month's Four Winds topic. At dinner, when listening to Emily's stories about her day, I know exactly which kids and teachers she is talking about.

As well as the kids and teachers, I got to know other volunteers. Several are parents like me; others are community members, like Don McLean. Don and I formed an instant bond. Sitting with Don during trainings reminded me of being in grade school; we'd have fun and make low-level mischief, while of course learning some stuff. It was through Don that I got connected to activities at The Grange, and Friends of Music at Guilford. From there, my connections with the Guilford community snowballed.

We're just a month or so into school



## *The Guilford Gazette*

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*Nancy Detra, April Judd*

### BUSINESS & ADVERTISING

*Carol Levin, Linda Hay, Wanda Atomanuk*

### EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

*Susan Bonthron, Lisa Ford*

Managing Editor: *Susan Bonthron*

The *Guilford Gazette* was established in 1995 and was published by students at Guilford Central School, with support from the Town of Guilford, and is now published under the auspices of the Guilford Free Library. We publish four issues per year: November, February, May and August.

The *Guilford Gazette* is happy to print photos and articles submitted by the public. Please be aware that *the Gazette staff cannot be responsible for photographs and names printed without the permission of participants*. It is the responsibility of the writers and photographers to make sure they have permission to print.

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The Guilford Gazette is an all-volunteer newspaper that comes out four times a year. That's a big commitment for the four or five regulars on the staff, who take care of editing, production, advertising, printing and mailing it to every Guilford household. Here's how you can help:

- Prepare the printed newspaper for mailing by helping us with labels. If enough people show up, this only takes a few hours and it's a chance to socialize and get a sneak preview of the paper! Contact Cathi Wilken at the library [257-4603] to find out how you can help.

- Send in articles. This is a chance to let us know what your group, organization or business is doing in Guilford! Or perhaps you'd like to share a reminiscence, poem, or story with your fellow Guilfordites. Just limit your entry to no more than 500 words. You can submit articles to the Gazette by email to [gazette@guilfordfree.org](mailto:gazette@guilfordfree.org), or you can send a printed copy to Susan Bonthron (108 S. Belden Hill Rd., Guilford, VT 05301), or Gazette c/o Guilford Free Library (4024 Guilford Center Rd, Guilford, VT 05301). Please DO pay attention to deadlines!

- Join our staff. If you have an interest in becoming a staff member who can help with editing, advertising or production, we'd love you to join us at our "second Thursday of the month" meetings at 9AM at the Guilford Country Store. Meetings start on time and last no more than one hour.

- Donate. The Gazette always welcomes donations of any size. They help pay for postage and printing. Checks made out to The Guilford Gazette should be sent to Guilford Free Library, 4024 Guilford Center Road, Guilford, 05301.

*Thanks in advance for your help in keeping our town newspaper alive and thriving!*



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## *Four Winds cont*

and we've already taught our first Four Winds class on the life cycle of insects. We took the kids on an insect safari and were rewarded by squeals of delight as kids collected and identified different insects found in the school grounds. That day I learned that all Guilford kids know about the caterpillar tree—a tree at school where the caterpillars hang out. I also learned that luna moths have no mouths because they only live for about a week, during which time their purpose is to mate; this knowledge makes those sightings of luna moths even more precious.

So if you want to get to know your kids' friends and teachers, connect with the community, and learn more about your natural surroundings, be-

come a Four Winds volunteer. I am living proof that you don't need a science degree, just an eagerness to learn and share.

But don't just take my word for it, here's what Don McLean said about Four Winds:

"I started volunteering when our son was in the Primary grade and continued after he moved out of the program, retiring from Four Winds after 25 years. One of the unofficial benefits of being a Four Winds volunteer is that you get to know a wonderful collection of parents and other adults in the community."

To learn more, email me [victoria.m.matthew@gmail.com](mailto:victoria.m.matthew@gmail.com).



## Shirley Squires Honored at Latchis


BY SUSAN BONTHRON

Shirley Squires was honored at the Latchis Theater on October 15th during a fundraiser for the AIDS Project of Southern Vermont (APSV). The fundraiser featured "Elegies for Angels, Punks and Ragging Queens," the first show written about the AIDS pandemic and performed off-Broadway in 1989. In the Latchis production on Saturday night, several Guilfordites, including Richard Wizansky and Todd

Mandell, were part of the talented cast.

Shirley's son Ronald Squires represented Guilford and Vernon in the State Legislation in the early 'nineties and was lost to AIDS in 1993. Since then she has raised over \$300,000 for the APSV. The APSV and Guilford thank her for her dedication and commitment to raise awareness and help for people with HIV/AIDS.

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## The Women of the Gazette

BY APRIL JUDD

I began volunteering for the Gazette in the spring of this past year. I walked into the first monthly meeting and sat at a table full of women, all catching up with each other and having coffee and tea at the Guilford Country Store. I soon realized that this group of ladies meant business, as they launched straight into a checklist of items needed to get the next edition of the Gazette completed. I walked away from that meeting with joy in my heart, thinking of the long line of women throughout history who have kept the beautiful, important and meaningful parts of our communities alive. I decided then that the folks of Guilford needed to know about the current group of women who tirelessly, with passion and dedication, keep the Gazette alive.

"The Gazette started as a vehicle for communication between the town and the school, to help draw the community together," says Cathi Wilken, "and that remains my key motivation today." Cathi is the Librarian at the Guilford Free Library and one of the long time members of Gazette production team. She is the person most responsible for the rebirth of the Gazette as a volunteer organization.

The Guilford Gazette was started in 1994 by middle school students coached by Susan Bonthron (the Gazette's current managing editor) and Joe Brooks (a para in the middle school) as a service-learning project. The middle school students conducted a survey to ask the town of Guilford what it most needed, and one

very frequent response was "a way to communicate with each other." The first issue of the Gazette was published in 1995, and it was a great way for kids to gain skills (editing and writing, using computers, working hard to meet deadlines, selling ads, photographing local sites, interviewing community members, doing layout and production) while providing a valuable service to the community.

"Over time the Gazette became a regular part of the curriculum, which is what Joe and I hoped for," says Susan. "I continued to work on it for a decade and then retired. When the middle school moved to Brattleboro and Cathi asked for volunteers, I joined the staff again. I am gratified that it remains an important part of how Guilford communicates."

"I've lived in the Brattleboro area for over 25 years, 15 of them in Guilford," says Lisa Ford, one of the Gazette's current editors. "I became acquainted with the Gazette when my oldest daughter (now 20) was a student at Guilford. When the town voted to move their middle school students to the Brattleboro Area Middle School, I knew the Gazette might be cut from the curriculum." Lisa continues, "During this time, Cathi Wilken spoke to me about making the Gazette a community run newspaper. Although I knew this meant hours of volunteer time, I said 'count me in'. And I've never regretted it."

More and more people began asking Cathi "What are we going to do without our Gazette?" She then took the reins and began recruiting the team of ladies we have

today. "I was part of the original group brought together by Cathi to brainstorm how to bring the Gazette back after we lost our 7th and 8th grades. I've been involved ever since," says Michelle Frehsee, who spends many hours each edition managing the production, layout, and ad design for the paper. Michelle also brings the youngest of our Gazette members, Zoe, who, at the age of 7 months, brings infinite smiles and a reminder of why the Gazette is so important. "The Gazette is the best time capsule we can create, share and keep as a town," adds Michelle. "I'm involved because I feel it is incredibly important to help keep the Gazette alive and thriving. Having recorded history in such a beautiful and thorough format is priceless for Guilford's future."

Many of the women mirrored Michelle's sentiment. "The Gazette ties us all together, shares news and stories, and makes Guilford a stronger community," reflects Evelyn McLean, who is part of the production team. Linda Hay, one of the paper's Business and Advertising team members adds, "With other sources of community information on a downhill slide we needed to do something just for Guilford." Wanda Ato-manuk, the Gazette's bookkeeper and treasurer says, "I enjoy all the articles and ideas the group comes up with. I feel it is a connection that reaches every household and keeps them informed in so many ways. There are many residents I don't know, but we share the

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# Community News

# 5

## The Women of the Gazette cont...

same appreciation for a small town.”

As readers of the Gazette, I’m sure we all have favorite items we look forward to seeing in each addition. For me, it’s articles about the local history, stories about local farmers and how they are keeping traditions alive, the sharing of knowledge handed down generation by generation. “Stories and drawings from the school children, stories about and by elders in the community, activities coming up, and yes, the advertisers,” adds Carol Levin, the Gazette Advertising

coordinator. Nancy Detra, a long time writing contributor to the paper who joined our production team this spring says, “I loved the idea of having a community newspaper that stuck with stories and issues of our own little town.”

You would think that the time demands of the Gazette would take up a majority of these ladies’ time. But no, they contribute in so many other ways to our community. They are teachers, mothers, actresses, artists, archers, singers, a sheep farmer, and a Justice of the Peace. They sit on boards

in the community, they chair and curate, they care for our firefighters, they work full-time jobs, or care for ailing parents, they watch loved ones pass, and they recreate their lives and selves after great loss. And every single edition of the Gazette weaves in and out of this beautiful tapestry of community contribution.

As for me, I try hard to meet editorial deadlines and to capture the heart of this group of women, whether in word or just by noticing all the little things that make them all so special to our town.



(L to R) Lisa Ford, Evelyn McLean, Cathi Wilken, Susan Bonthron, Nancy Detra. Missing: Michelle Frehsee, Carol Levin, April Judd, Wanda Atomanuk, Linda Hay.



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## New Signs for the Covered Bridge

BY HARRY SAXMAN

I have been having fun making new signs for the Green River covered bridge. Usually I make signs with stick-on plastic letters cut out by a vinyl cutter connected to my computer. But the old signs lasted for 173 years, so I used sign paint, which is much more permanent and easier to repair.

To capture the lettering of the old signs precisely, I decided to try making a stencil. After several experiments, I was ready. I photographed the old sign, cleaned up the type in Photoshop, and used the cutter to make a vinyl stencil which I then used to paint the signs.

The original signs were made for eight dollars when the bridge was built in 1873. The signs were repaired and repainted many times over the years, and



once one of them was stolen. After the theft was reported on the news, it was returned. The signs look like they were painted by the same person who made the sign for the Guilford Free Library in 1891. The tail of the capital R is quite distinctive.

The fine of two dollars was a lot of

money in 1873, showing how serious they were about people going slow on the bridge. In the 1874 town report, there is an item called Bridge Fines ...\$12.00. Apparently six people were caught trotting over the bridge (or maybe one really bad person six times).



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## CC4G Accepted into Promise Communities Initiative

BY ELLY MAJONEN

What is the Promise Communities Initiative?

Vermont's Promise Communities initiative is a new effort to support children and families in the state. Modeled after the Harlem Children's Zone, the Promise Communities initiative brings together a diverse group of community members to create community-based change in order to better support young children and families (particularly those with high needs) and improve school readiness. While many states have implemented this type of place-based initiative, Vermont is among the first to use this model to address the nature of rural poverty.

Vermont has identified seven Promise Communities so far. In each community, a coalition of people who are committed to supporting young children will gather at least monthly to review the strengths and needs of the community. The coalition will then create an action plan, or "Road Map," to strengthen families and improve outcomes for children. Once the action plan is in place, financial support—consisting of grants up to \$200,000—will be given to the community to assist implementation efforts. Each community coalition also works with a Promise Communities coach who guides the community through the two-year process. Community coalition meetings are open to anyone who is interested in the community and the success of young children and families.

For more information about the Prom-

ise Communities Initiative, go to [www.letsgrowkids.org/blog/vermonts-promise-communities](http://www.letsgrowkids.org/blog/vermonts-promise-communities)

CC4G's role in the Initiative - Community Collaborative for Guilford (CC4G) wrote an application to be part of the Promise Communities Initiative. A portion of our proposed project seeks to: support children by providing high quality care and education, including before and after school program options; support families by providing consistent quality care which will allow them to work, make connections to important resources, and access supplemental food through the Food Pantry if needed; and create opportunities for inter-generational connection to strengthen our sense of community.

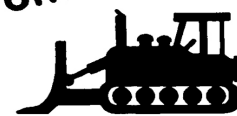
CC4G is already working with other community organizations to help address some of these issues, but we need a greater representation of the community to join us in our efforts. We are looking for people who are interested in helping us: 1) look at the strengths and concerns of Guilford children and families; 2) work on a comprehensive plan to support strengthening families, increasing school readiness, and connecting community members and organizations; and 3) implement the plan.

If you are looking to make a difference in our community, and would like to be part of this process, please contact Elly Majonen at [cc4guilford@gmail.com](mailto:cc4guilford@gmail.com) or call 802-579-2720 to see how you can participate.

To learn more about CC4G, visit our website at [www.cc4guilford.org](http://www.cc4guilford.org)

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## Primary Classroom News At GCS

BY MELANIE ST. JOHN, GCS 6TH GRADE

In a small town, at a small school, Guilford Central School primary students and teachers have been busy doing exciting things in their classrooms ever since school began. They have been doing math, learning multiplication and division, learning how to read and put words together, and so much more!

Kindergarten: It is always scary to go to school for the first time-believe me I know-but these brave little new additions to GCS are working hard. They are the new kindergarteners! They just did a taste test making salsa for the whole school. I heard it was pretty good. Kindergarten teacher Ms. Karen Duggan has

been teaching the kindergarteners the rules of our school and all the letters of the alphabet. They have already learned the letters T, B, F, and M. In the future, they are going to learn about the weather and how things move. They are also going to participate in Four Winds, a program run by volunteers who come and teach the kids about nature and animals. I asked a kindergartener if he liked kindergarten and he said, "Good! Love it!"

First Grade: The first and fourth grade teachers switched classes and now the former fourth grade teacher is the new first grade teacher! Her name is Ms. Karyn Tyler. She has been teaching the first graders numbers through ten. They have been reviewing letters, sounds, and short words, and they have been reading. I talked to a first grader and asked him what he liked about first grade and he said, "The games," and he added that he likes the math they're doing and the specials.

Second Grade: There is a lot going on in the second grade as well, like working on math and personal narratives, and writing family stories about what their families love. Ms. Lapan has taken them to the museum at the Guilford Historical Society, and they are going to work on adding and subtracting up to 20 in the future.

Third Grade: There is a new face in the third grade, and her name is Ms. Quimby. She has worked with third and fourth grades before, and she enjoys it. Third graders are working on multiplication, division, writing narratives, reading books, and so much more! Ms. Quimby can't wait to get out into the Guilford community.

As you can see, the primary grades have been working on a lot, and are going to work on a lot in the future. I hope you can't wait to hear more about what's going on at GCS.

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## Upper Elementary Classroom News

BY BREA TKACZYK, GCS 6TH GRADE

There is so much going on in GCS! If you walk around, you will see new faces and kids working hard: making sauerkraut, playing soccer on the playground, reading DCF (Dorothy Canfield Fisher) books for independent reading. You will find everything, from just

learning shapes to geography. So much is going on in GCS, and I am about to tell you what is happening in the upper grades.

Fourth Grade: In the fourth grade with their teacher Cory Sorensen, students are making sauerkraut and just got their own Google accounts.

They are two new students, one from Alaska and one from St. Michaels. In the future, they plan to work on the history of Vermont. When I interviewed student Rose Stone and asked her what was new this year, she said, "We are louder, we have two new students, and a new teacher."

Fifth Grade: In the fifth grade, they are working on geography. For geography, they went onto the school soccer field and made a map of Guilford with sticks. Ms. Erickson likes getting to know her new class and their strengths. In the future, she is very excited for the field trips that the fifth grade will be taking.

Sixth Grade: What's new in sixth grade? In the sixth grade they are doing Forest Thursday, which is really fun. Sixth graders are also starting a new fun tradition, which is that on the first Friday of every month, they will bake a yummy treat for the whole school. When I interviewed student Brooke Whelan, she said, "Ms. Kramer is so fun and energetic."

Now you can see that there is a lot going on in the fourth, fifth and sixth grades. Just walk down the upper grade halls and you will see. .



4th, 5th and 6th grade teachers

## Ms. Bristol Returns to GCS

BY HUNTER LABARGE, GCS 6TH GRADE

In the small town of Guilford there lies a school called Guilford Central. There are many new faces this school this year, like the one I interviewed- Ms. Jaclyn Bristol. Ms. Bristol is a new 4-6 para educator who was a student here when GCS was K-8. She goes with the 6th grade to the Weeks forest on our Forest Thursdays. At recess she plays tag with the 6th grade.

She is a fun and energetic teacher.

Ms. Bristol has a black lab named Pepper and a cat named Apple. She previously worked as a drug and alcohol counselor and health teacher. She went to Keene State College and Colby-Sawyer College, earning a degree in secondary education.

Ms. Bristol likes working with the 6th grade. She likes the age group and she's

getting used to the speeds that everyone learns at. She says, "It's weird but fun to work at a school that I went to."

In conclusion, we are lucky to have such a fun and energetic teacher around who has strong connections to the community. The school has so many new faces this year!



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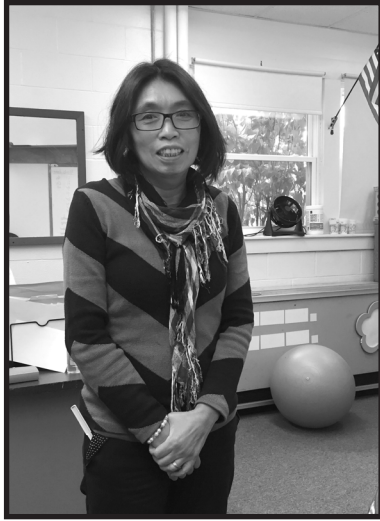
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## Who Is Ms. Gong?

BY BROOKE WHELAN, GCS 6TH GRADE



Ms. Gong

This year at GCS, you might see some new faces in the hall. One of them is Ms. Gong, the new special educator. When I interviewed her, I learned a lot about her. As you'll see, she is a very interesting person with a great personality.

Before she came to Guilford Central School, Ms. Gong worked at a school in New Hampshire. She has been a teacher for over 20 years, and a special educator for about 10 years. She decided to be a special educator because she loves working with kids with disabilities. She has lived in Massachusetts and New York. She is currently living in New Hampshire. Ms. Gong said, "Driving

from New Hampshire to Guilford every day is a long drive!" A fun fact about Ms. Gong is that her dream job is to have her own cooking show because she loves to cook, and cooking is what she does in her free time. She lives with her husband and one of her kids.

Ms. Gong said she likes Guilford Central School. The challenge she has is paperwork. She says she still hasn't figured out paperwork. It is great to have Ms. Gong here this year, and I hope she enjoys GCS even more. Kids seem to like her, and just from that interview I like her, too.

## Box Top Collection Raises Money for Guilford School

BY LISA FORD

Guilford School is collecting Box Tops from commonly used household items to exchange for money—a simple fundraiser all community members can participate in.

When you're grocery shopping, look for the colorful "Box Tops for Education" logo on the tops of your boxes of cereal, crackers, yoghurt and other items. The school is collecting Box tops all year long.

Community members are invited to drop off box tops to help support this easy, ongoing fundraiser.

For more information and to see a list of participating products visit [www.bboxtops-4education.com](http://www.bboxtops-4education.com).



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# School News

# 11

## The Transition from Guilford Central School into BAMS

BY TENZIN MATHES

In sixth grade, the teachers would give us a lot of work and tell us that we had to be ready for BAMS. (Brattleboro Area Middle School). How right they were! With lockers, lunch codes, more classes, more people and a completely different schedule, it was all a bit confusing. The first day of middle school was complete craziness. No one had told us where any of the rooms were, or where you go at the beginning of school, and what our schedules were. After the first day we got the information we needed and it was less crazy.

At BAMS there are a few things that are similar to Guilford. For instance, everybody has a Chromebook, so it's a good thing that we learned how to use them at Guilford. We are also re-learning

a lot of academic stuff like the grammar in English class and angles in math from sixth grade, so we were pretty well prepared on that front. There is also a breakfast cart, just like at Guilford.

We were not prepared for a lot of the changes but I think my friends and I are getting use to it. We definitely weren't used to having white and purple days (each color determines the schedule of the day). But the schedule is different every day, so there is variety, which is nice. It was also hard to remember three different codes (locker, gym locker, and lunch code). Also the Chromebook and assorted website passwords were hard to remember. We had almost no experience of doing that in Guilford.

Even though it was a hard transition at first, I like my new school and there are

a lot of good things about BAMS. We have a lot more freedom. We get to walk around in the hallway between classes and we get to choose what we want to take. For example, we can choose between World Languages or French, and Chorus or Band. The Sports Program is really nice. At Guilford Ms. Jacobs got us all running with her Smile Mile. And now I'm doing cross country, and there is also football, soccer, and field hockey. There are also really cool after school programs like fencing and a zipline ropes course, and robotics, to name a few. All in all, I personally like BAMS a lot and every Guilford student I have talked to does too.

Articles for the *Gazette* are due the 1st of January, April, July and October for publication the following month. To submit an article or photo for the February issue of the *Gazette*, please send it to [gazette@guilfordfree.org](mailto:gazette@guilfordfree.org)

**by January 1st.**

Thank you to the *Gazette* donors. We appreciate your support.

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## Guilford Central School Ushers in a Second Year of After-School Programming

BY JODY HAUSER

Come visit Guilford Central School on any Wednesday or Thursday afternoon to see the myriad of activities happening for students in kindergarten through third grade. Guilford's After-School Program is now in the beginning of its second year.

Last year with the help of a \$10,000 start-up grant from the Henderson Foundation, Guilford Central School was able to create and provide enrichment and care for its younger students two days a week from after school until 5:15 pm. This generous grant helps pay for a director, assistant director, and programming. We contract out services from community members and local businesses to host an hour program once a week

all year. Our students have learned simple building, done arts and crafts, learned winter survival skills (from Bonnyvale Environmental Education Center—BEEC), taken classes with New England Center for Circus Arts (NECCA), done yoga and cooked! The Crosby-Gannett foundation also awarded \$800.00 to the program specifically for snack and supplies.

Last year our program served on average fourteen families, which we considered a success. Therefore, the Guilford School Board agreed the program was viable and funded the program for the 2016-17 school year through the school budget.

This year is shaping up to be just as exciting as last year. We have new students and new energy and more special guests

coming in to teach us new things. We are hoping to have some programs such as BEEC and NECCA return, and are also looking forward to having community member Nancy Detra come in with art and puppet making, in addition to more yoga and martial arts. As well as working with our special guests, the GCS ASP participants will build forts in the forest, do simple science experiments, work in the school garden or just simply have fun on the playground or in the school library.

If you know a child in Guilford who might benefit from this program or have an idea to host a special activity, please contact Program director Jody Hauser at the Guilford Central School Library or

## Guilford Holiday Open Studio and Sale

BY NANCY DETRA

The Guilford Holiday Open Studio will be on Friday and Saturday, Nov 18 and 19. The sale, which is in its 17th year, always takes place on the weekend before Thanksgiving.

Featured this year will be a new Guilford craftsman, Dennis Waring. Dennis is an instrument maker, author and teacher. He offers workshops in instrument making from reused materials for people of all ages.

Returning artisans are weaver Carol Schnabel, who hosts the event; puppet and ornament makers Nancy Detra and Margaret Dale Barrand; jeweler Vicky Houghton, farmer Mary Ellen Franklin;

painter John Dimick; and mosaic artist Susan Rosano.

New items for sale will be one-of-a-kind instruments, mosaic jewelry, and pop-up tree ornaments, in addition to a vibrant line of bamboo scarves and shawls, framed mosaics of recycled materials, colorful bead necklaces, oil and watercolor landscapes, pop-up puppets, maple products and eggs.

The sale runs from 3-8 pm on Friday, and 10am-4 pm on Saturday. Visitors will enjoy good fellowship, as well as a delicious array of sweet and savory treats. The studio is located at 410 Green River Road and is not handicapped accessible.



For information: 802-257-1894 or [www.carolschnabelhandweaving.wordpress.com](http://www.carolschnabelhandweaving.wordpress.com).

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## Community Potluck Thanksgiving Celebration

Broad Brook Grange will hold its annual free community potluck Thanksgiving dinner Saturday, November 19, starting at 5 p.m. at the Grange Hall at 3940 Guilford Center Road, Guilford. The event is open to the community.

Anyone who would like to contribute food for the meal is encouraged to do so from side dishes, to vegetable casseroles, to breads, beverages, and desserts (pies and other treats). The Grange will provide roast turkey, stuffing, and mashed potatoes. The community event is a fun time to sit down with your neighbors to share food and fellowship. Hope you can be there! The more the merrier.

For more information:

e-mail [bfhaumann@myfairpoint.net](mailto:bfhaumann@myfairpoint.net)  
or call 251-0112

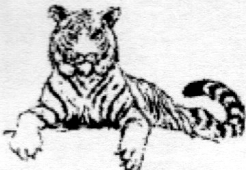


*Guilford Center Halloween 2016*

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## Recreation Commission Has Busy Fall

BY LISA FORD

Guilford's Recreation Commission kicked off their fall season with a family field day event in August and a large variety of sports programs for local youth.

Field day activities included water games, races, an obstacle course and the hugely popular archery range hosted by Sportsmen Inc. Over 30 children participated and the commission hopes to make this an annual event.

In September, the Recreation Commission coordinated seven after school sports programs for elementary students. Forty-seven students are participating, many in more than

one activity. Programs include Running Club, Soccer, and Flag Football for multiple age groups. Also exciting is the collaboration with Karen Givens of Sportsmen Inc., who is offering two separate archery classes for Guilford students. This relationship with Sportsmen Inc. will hopefully bring other opportunities for learning as well, including fishing or hunting.

The Recreation Commission is a board that also relies on the support of volunteer coaches. Coaches in the fall include: Nicolas Phillips, Eric Jones, Eric Hoyer, Robin Frehsee, Jen Bogert, Claire Renaud and Lisa Ford. Guilford Central School has generously hired a

part time Sports Co-coordinator, Michael Eastman, who is involved with the school-based sports programs.

Volunteer coaches and fitness instructors are always needed along with ideas for programs. If you are interested in coaching or leading a fitness program for adults or children, contact the Recreation Commission at: [contact@guilfordrecreation.org](mailto:contact@guilfordrecreation.org)

Anyone interested in expanding the recreation programs in Guilford should consider joining the Recreation Commission. Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM.

## Delinquent Property Tax Collection

BY PENNY MARINE

The Guilford Selectboard appointed me as Collector of Delinquent Taxes in January 2015. At that time, there were more than 60 property owners who were overdue in their payment of property taxes. More than \$400,000 was owed to the Town in delinquent tax payments.

My goal has been to reinvigorate Guilford's Delinquent Tax Policy by working with each taxpayer to eliminate their delinquency. So far, we have made good progress. Many

people have responded to our notices by either paying their entire delinquency or by engaging in a formal payment plan. For those who are not responding to our notices, we are preparing for the possibility that their properties will go to a tax sale.

I believe it is in the best interest of the Town and its residents that property taxes be paid when they are due but I recognize that there are circumstances beyond the control of a taxpayer that may cause them to become delinquent.

I will work with these delinquent taxpayers to help them come current in their obligation to the Town and will deal with them in a diplomatic and professional manner. However, should I encounter a taxpayer who fails or refuses to deal in good faith, I will proceed with any and all collection methods appropriate to recover the debt in a timely manner.

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## An Invitation to Sheppie's Meadow

BY NANCY DETRA

An open meadow is an increasingly rare sight in Vermont; a meadow lined on one side with a double file of pink hydrangeas is especially rare. When you come from the east down the mile-long hill into the village of Green River on the Jacksonville Stage Road, you see what the old timers called "Grassy Spur" opening up on your left.

The hydrangea path features an information board at its start, where meadow owner and neighbor Michael Knapp explains his and his wife's intentions for the meadow, which they bought 22 years ago with a conservation easement attached. "Grasslands are home to a diversity of wildlife: mammals, butterflies, and birds-including some of our rarest birds. These birds need large contiguous patches of grassland habitat for successful breeding. Timing of mowing is crucial to the survival of nesting grassland birds. Early and frequent mowing destroys nests and

young. Bobolinks nest in the field, and this is important because we've had a 75% decline in their population in



Vermont between 1966 to 2007." The hydrangeas were planted in a double line to provide defense against erosion from the river when it floods, and to offer habitat for birds and other animals.

Indeed, the bobolinks are not the only ones who enjoy the field. On one recent afternoon the meadow hosted walkers, walkers with dogs, and equestrians, as well as a panoply of birds and other creatures. Knapp explains that he loves that people appreciate the beauty the meadow offers.

"We all have to appreciate different features of our landscape... We won't protect it for generations to come if we don't appreciate it," he says. Michael credits Ron Cutting with haying the field each year, and with spreading manure to nourish the grasses. With the help of neighbor Rob Goldenhill, Knapp has done battle with invasives, clearing buckthorn and knotweed from the banks of the river that runs alongside the field. Knapp decided to rename the open land Sheppie's Meadow, in memory of Goldenhill's German Shepherd, who enjoyed many walks there.



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## Guilford Reads:

The Endurance: Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition  
and Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World

BY CATHI WILKEN

In August 1914, days before the outbreak of the First World War, the renowned explorer Ernest Shackleton and a crew of twenty-seven set sail for the South Atlantic in pursuit of the last unclaimed prize in the history of exploration: the first crossing on foot of the Antarctic continent. Weaving a treacherous path through the freezing Weddell Sea, they had come within eighty-five miles of their destination when their

ship, *Endurance*, was trapped fast in the ice pack. Soon the ship was crushed like matchwood, leaving the crew stranded on the floes. Their ordeal would last for twenty months, and they would make two near-fatal attempts to escape by open boat before their final rescue.

Drawing upon previously unavailable sources, Caroline Alexander has written *Endurance*, a riveting account of Shackleton's expedition—one of history's greatest epics of survival. She also presents the astonishing work of Frank Hurley, the Australian photographer whose visual record of the adventure has never before been published comprehensively. Together, text and image re-create the terrible beauty of Antarctica, the awful destruction of the ship, and the crew's heroic daily struggle to stay alive, a miracle achieved largely through Shackleton's inspiring leadership.

A companion book for young readers, *Shipwreck* by Jennifer Armstrong uses text

filled with details about daily life, quotes (unfortunately not sourced), fascinating archival photos by one of the members of the expedition, and insight into elements of science with important bearing on the story (navigation techniques, different kinds of ice). Armstrong paints a vivid picture of the ordeal.

To celebrate the Shackleton adventure, we'll build an arctic snow fort on the library lawn on the first big snow day this winter.

Thanks to the Vermont Humanities Council and Vermont Reads (a state-wide community reading program), both books are available for you to borrow at the library, the Guilford Country Store and the Guilford Town Office. When finished, readers are asked to return them or pass them on to a friend who will help us keep the books circulating.

## Christmas Crèches on Display

BY SUSAN BONTHRON

Beginning December 5th, Shirley Squires will once again display her fabulous collection of Christmas crèches this year at her home in Guilford. Each year she features new additions to her collection. She likes to show her nativities to small groups of people, so she asks that people call her in advance to schedule a viewing time. Admis-

sion is free, and Shirley can be reached at 254-2696 to schedule an appointment.



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## A Muster of Firemen

BY WANDA ATOMANUK

Someone asked what is a muster? One definition of a muster is a gathering or collection of people or things.

This year at the Guilford Fair, the Guilford Fire Department hosted a

“Muster” of six local fire department teams to compete in challenges representing the skills they need for fighting a fire.

There were teams from Colrain and Colrain Juniors, Hinsdale, Vernon, and Leyden

along with our own team from Guilford. It was Vernon’s turn to shine this year. Congratulations to Vernon! All teams deserve our thanks and respect.



### December 16 & 17, Fri. at 7:30, Sat. at 4:00 - 44th Christmas at Christ Church: O, Happy Yule!

Guilford Chamber Singers and Chamber Players offer Music from the British Isles; Don McLean reads “A Church Mouse” by noted American author Mary Wilkins Freeman (1852-1930), who lived in Brattleboro as a teenager and visited family in Green River; finale Carol Sing. Historic Christ Church, cor. Rt. 5 & Melendy Hill Rd., Guilford. Info: Friends of Music at Guilford, (802) 254-3600, office@fomag.org, www.fomag.org.

**December 18th, Sunday at 7:00pm -The 56th Annual Green River Service of Scriptures and Carols** will be held at the church in Green River Village. It will be recorded by WTSA-FM and rebroadcast on Christmas Eve. Refreshments will be served in the vestibule following the service.

*“Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home.”--Edith Sitwell*

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## Guilford Fire Department Raffle – 2017

BY WANDA ATOMANUK

The Guilford Fire Department is again holding a raffle to sponsor a Zoll X-Series Cardiac Monitor. Here is how it works: Tickets may be purchased from any member of the fire department or

trustee. You may also mail your check along with the information shown below (please be sure Attn: Zoll raffle is on the envelope). Tickets are \$50 each and only 200 will be sold. Drawings will be held on

the second Tuesday of each month throughout the year 2017. Each month the ticket will be put back in the lottery for a chance to win again. Thank you for all your support and Good Luck!

### Guilford Fire Department Calls

#### July -

6 fire, 1 medical, 1 mutual aid

#### August-

4 fire, 1 medical, 2 mutual aid, 1 motor vehicle,  
1 house explosion

#### September-

9 fire, 13 medical, 4 mutual aid

#### The Zoll Montitor Raffle Winners:

August - Cheryl Atamaniuk (Brattleboro)

Sept - Bernadette Haskins (Brattleboro)

October - Jason Posternak (Dummerston)

Be sure to buy a raffle ticket before the second week of January for the 2017 raffle, so that your ticket can be entered for all twelve drawings next year! Drawings are the second Tuesday of the month.

### I would like to purchase a ticket for the 2017 Guilford Fire Dept. Raffle.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF TICKETS AT \$50 EACH: \_\_\_\_\_

ENCLOSED IS MY CHECK

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# Community Calendar

# 19

## NOVEMBER

### 18 MOVIE:TBA

1 PM (free) Guilford Community Church sponsored by Guilford Free Library.

### 18 OPEN STUDIO

3-8 PM Guilford crafts and art for sale.

### 19 OPEN STUDIO

10 AM- 4 PM Guilford crafts and art for sale.

### 19 COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING POTLUCK

5 PM Broad Brook Grange. Bring a dish to share.

## DECEMBER

### 3 FOMAG-44TH COMMUNITY MESSIAH SING

1 PM, Centre Congregationl Church (benefit for the homeless) information 254-3600

### 5 SHIRLEY SQUIRES CRECHES COLLECTION ON DISPLAY

Call Shirley at 254-2696 to schedule an appointment.

## 16 MOVIE:TBA

1 PM (free) Guilford Community Church sponsored by Guilford Free Library.

### 16 FOMAG- O, HAPPY YULE!

7:30 PM Historic Christ Church (by donation), music from the British Isles. Information 254-3600

### 17 FOMAG- O, HAPPY YULE!

7:30 PM Historic Christ Church (by donation), music from the British Isles. Information 254-3600

### 18 FOMAG- O, HAPPY YULE!

4 PM Historic Christ Church (by donation), music from the British Isles. Information 254-3600

### 18 GREEN RIVER SERVICE OF SCRIPTURES AND CAROLS

7 PM (free) Green River Village Church. Refreshments served following service.

## JANUARY

### 20 MOVIE:TBA

1 PM (free) Guilford Community Church sponsored by Guilford Free Library.

## FEBRUARY

### 17 MOVIE:TBA

1 PM (free) Guilford Community Church sponsored by Guilford Free Library.

### ONGOING

#### Tuesdays:

•**STORYTIME- 11 AM** Library. Cathi Wilken or Laura Lawson Tucker presents a program of songs, fingerplays, books and activities for babies, toddlers and older siblings. No charge. Information: 254-6545

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month:

•**TALK ABOUT BOOKS, 6:30 PM,** library. Books are available to borrow from the library. No charge.

#### Every Thursday:

•**FOOD PANTRY 5-6 PM.** Broad Brook Grange

## Town of Guilford Meeting Schedule

Name of Meeting	Meeting Day(s)	Time	Location	Contact
Selectboard	2nd and 4th Mondays	6:30 PM	Town Office	www.guilfordvt.net
Planning Commission	3rd Mondays	7:00 PM	Town Office	www.guilfordvt.net
Conservation Commission	3rd Thursdays	5:00 PM	Town Office	www.guilfordvt.net
Cemetery Commission	3rd Thursdays	5:30 PM	Town Office	www.guilfordvt.net
Recreation Commission	2nd Thursday	6:30 PM	Town Office	contact@guilfordrecreation.org
School Board	1st and 3rd Mondays	6:30 PM	School	www.guilfordvt.net
Fire Department Trustees	1st Mondays	6:30 PM	Fire Station	254-4413
Firefighter's Meeting and Drills	Every Tuesday	6:30 PM	Fire Station	254-4413
Fire Department Auxiliary	1st Thursdays	6:30 PM	Fire Station	gfdaux@yahoo.com; 254-4413
Guilford Cares	2nd Wednesdays	6:00 PM	Town Office	gcares@comcast.net
Guilford Pitstoppers	1st Mondays	7:00 PM	GCC	pitstoppers@comcast.net
Library Trustees	3rd Mondays	6:30 PM	Library	guilfordfreelibrary@wordpress.com
Historical Society	TBA	6:30 PM	Town Office	www.guilfordhistorical.org
Broad Brook Grange	1st Thursdays	7:00 PM	Grange Hall	
Guilford Gazette	2nd Thursdays	9:00 AM	Country Store	gazette@guilfordfree.org

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## ABOUT THIS COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

This newspaper is for you! We (the community volunteers) put together this newspaper for the community. We welcome your comments and questions. We hope that the *Gazette* provides a way for people in the community to communicate about local interests and goings on. Anyone can submit an article or letter to the editor--just put it in the *Gazette* Box at the library or the school, or mail it to *The Guilford Gazette* c/o Guilford Free Library, 4024 Guilford Center Rd, Guilford, VT 05301. You may also email us at: [gazette@guilfordfree.org](mailto:gazette@guilfordfree.org)

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